



-TDM has a review of the Z88 in latest issue, it is an on hands review, and this is part one, first impressions. Get the magazine and read it. Time Designs Magazine, 29722 Hult Rd., Colton, OR 97017.

-Jullie-a doll, a computer, hi tech toy, light sensor, temperature sensor, voice recognition, and extensive vocabually. This years Christmas toy hit, a computer that looks cute, and Dad wont get to play with it. Is this progress?

-received from Joan Kealy:

12-1-87

Dear Paul,

I said I'd let you know how good Dan Elliott [ Rte. 1, Box 117], Cabool MO did with my ailing 2068. He not only fixed 2 dead keys, but cured its inability to work with Magnavox Monitor. The TS2068 had been back to Timex Service Center in No. Carolina. No go. Both companies blamed the other but I brought new TS2068 that worked with Magnavox. So fault was in older TS2068. Dan fixed all-older 2068 works better than newer now.

J.K.

NOTE: letter received about two months from time info published so there is a good turn around time [ about 3 weeks and \$15 ]. Good words on Mr. Elliott's service from Rod McGowan of Oregon City, OR. As his reputation builds, he maybe be swamped with problem 2068s, and service may slow, be patient, it is only a part-time service. Other repair services are [ 1000/2068 ]: Carver Technology, 3832 Watterson Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45227 (513)271-5575; Sunset Electronics, Computer Services Dept., 2255 Taraval St., San Francisco, CA 94116 (415)665-8330; [ QL ] A+ Computer Response, 69-B Island St., Keene, NH 03431 (603)357-1800.

-received from D.G. Smith:

12-23-87

Sir(s);

Have you anyone in your group that might be willing to correspond and answer a large variety of questions? A few would be things like, how can I interface my TS1000 (or TS1500) to a full size printer? (I have a DIGITAL EQUIPMENT LETTER PRINTER 100 [LA100-ZA] which was given to me.) Can I use FORTH on the TS1000, (if I can learn it)? Where can I get an owners manual for the TS1500, and how much memory can be plugged on the back? Etc.

Thank You

D.G. Smith

R.415 Stone St.

Johnstown, PA 15906

-All you with out modems, or those of you who dont use the one you got, you are missing out on a GOOD thing. BBSs are generally FREE to users, but realize somebody has the extra change to purchase a computer and all the paraphanailia to get a BBS on line and then dedicate it to letting everyone else use it. If you use a BBS, say thanks to the SYSOPS once in awhile.

-TCCS BBS- 8-N-1 (607)765-2118 24 HOURS 7 DAYS A WEEK; SINCUS CONFERENCE; GROUP Password for next two months is "clive". With all the yahoos not with TS computing leaving their clever comments on the SINCUS conference, this may give our group some "privacy".

-Want to get into plotting? Check with John McMichael, 1710 Palmer Drive, Laramie, WY 82070 He has a plotting package for a VIC-1520; his interface and Pic-Plot utility software, for \$30.95; other combinations for lesser prices available. The VIC-1520 is available elsewhere for about \$50. Write for all the details, send a SASE.

ZX81/TS1000 Tips -thanks to Don Lamen, Windsor, NY

A method of loading and stopping an autorun program, donated to the readers of SYNC magazine several years ago by Charles R. Byler, Capt. US Army. Follow these steps:

- 1) Have your program tape positioned at the beginning of the silent period with the recorder in the PLAY mode and the PAUSE button down. After pressing <ENTER> allow about 2 seconds for stabilization then release the PAUSE button.
- 2) Direct Command FAST <ENTER>
- 3) Direct Command RAND USR 836 <ENTER>
- 4) When you get the report code C/O at the bottom of the TV screen, stop the tape.
- 5) Direct Command SLOW <ENTER>
- 6) Direct Command <ENTER>
- 7) If listing hangs up on a REM line of machine code, then using direct command LIST n <ENTER> (where n equals one greater than the number of the REM line).

A method for deleting a block of consecutive lines from a BASIC program. Let's suppose that you have a program which you want to change by deleting everything after #287 up to line #500 but not including line #500.

The steps are as follows:

- 1) Add these five lines  
288 LET S= PEEK 16425 + 256 \* PEEK 16426-50  
289 LET L=E-S  
290 POKE S + 1, INT (L/256)  
291 POKE S, L- 256 \* PEEK (S+ 1)  
292 STOP
- 2) Add these 2 lines  
498 LET E = PEEK 16425 + 256 \* PEEK 16426 + [ 10 + number of digits in the line number of the first line that we added (ie. 288) ]  
499 GOTO 288
- 3) Use Direct Command GOTO 498 <ENTER> ( You will get report code 9/292 on the TV screen )
- 4) Use Direct Command 288 <ENTER>

-81s,1000s,1500s

-COMLINK I a plug in modem interface for your TS machine. 300 baud, software in onboard memory, no loading problems!-write to A. Eckhardt, 918 Anna Street, Boalsburg, PA 16827, \$54.95(PP)

-81s,1000s,1500s

-ZX-Term#80 modem software for your Westridge or Byte-Back modem. Many, many features, up to 80 COLUMNS, upload/download, only 4K of memory, usable with any size RAMPac. \$24.95 write to Silicon Mountain Computers, C-12, Mtn. Stn. Group Box, Nelson BC V1L 5P1, Canada (604)352-1668

Desk-Top Publishing on the TS2068-see ad this issue by S D Lemke

1988 ComputerFest see ad this issue by Jack Williamson

-Videos! MINI-FAIR SEMINAR TAPES(this past fall!) from RMB Enterprises, 1419 1/2 7th Street, Oregon City, OR 97045 (503)655-7484; 1-6 hour VHS tape for \$15.95 (PP) Speakers-Syd Wyncoop, Michael Carver, Harvey Taylor, Wilf Rigter and others!

-MORE Videos! 2d Annual Midwest Computerfest of seminars and of the fest! Write SMUG, POB 101, Butler, WI 53007 for list of seminars and prices, Beta or VHS; also 2nd book on mc programming by Dr. Lloyd Dreger, for \$16.95 + \$1.50 s&h.

A couple issues ago there was a request for ROM addresses in the 2068 which corresponded with certain Spectrum commands. We had two responses from members, and I will include them in this issue for your information, if I can obtain permission from the people at SYNTAX, or from the author Nazir Pashtoon, of the LIST Group. It was in the final issue or issues of SYNTAX (Vol. 5, #10) Oct '84.

```
* * * * * WANTED * * * * *
*   SPECTRUM ROM DISASSEMBLY   *
*   by Ian Logan                 *
*   Please write to: Richard Hurd *
*   POB 153                       *
*   Warrenton, OR 97146         *
* * * * * WANTED * * * * *
```

-From R. Hurd: 3" Maxell discs going for \$33.50 per 10 from  
Green Tree Computer Supplies  
11 Osage Road  
Rockaway, NJ 07866

-Taxes! How to figure, writes Herb Bowers, Sr., 2588 Woodshire Circle, Chesapeake, VA 23323 (304)487-5924 "W-4 Program how to figure Employee Withholding"=\$7.00 (PP); "The NEW Tax Law and You", \$7.00 (PP), or both for \$12.00 (PP). He also has a income tax preparer program for \$29.50 (PP) called "GWIK-1040". More! write Herb!

-The F.C.C. "Federal Communication Commission" has been mulling a \$5 per hour tax on online telecommunication information services, like GENIE, Source and Comuserve. Of course if the tax is imposed, the cost will about double current online fees to the home user. January 1, 1988 is the start up date for the extra charge. Write to the F.C.C. and your congressman and your senators, and let him know your feelings, it may not be too late to have them suspend the tax.

Hello and Thank you to the following RENEWING members: Jim Kerr, Dolton, ILL; Jack Deuber, Casselberry, FLA; Don Lambert, Cedar Rapids, IA; Gerhard Meyer, Oceanside, NY; Laurie Futrell, Tucker, GA; Marinus Heuseveldt, Lantana, FLA; Lowell Heine, Minneapolis, MN; James Wilson, Akron, OH.

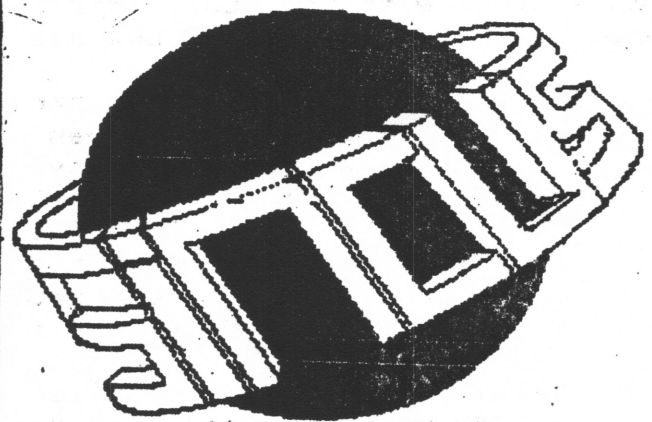
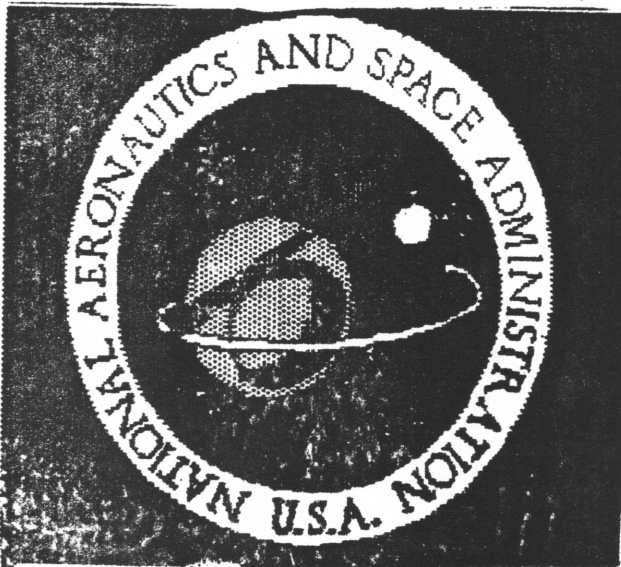
In reviewing several old newsletters, there are a lot of names of users and user groups no longer heard from. Where do they all go? Computer users are individuals, and the reasons for purchasing a computer range far and wide. The reason for quitting could be; lack of interest, time, money, space, spouse, movement to another system, or complete dissatisfaction with computing. Our TS computing is a tremendous investment in time and learning effort, and with the instant gratification demanded by many, a Cray II isn't fast enough. The reasons for staying, curiosity, mind stretching, a challenge, a fun hobby, keeping a useful tool. The ideal of some is to build their own system, others to buy the best, and others to make the most out of what they have. We are shedding the game players, the superficial, the "in" types, we are getting down to the HARD core TS and Sinclair computer users. Anyone who has expanded their system has had to learn anew, try, experiment, and redo or rewrite the manual, has had to use their grey matter on anything brought or homemade. Any program copied out of a magazine or book has to be debugged which teaches BASIC and frustrates many. A relatively simple matter for a brand name computer owner to add a disc, is a complex and for some an expensive undertaking. Modem users have tackled a new frontier with handholding by co-users, shared info from users around the



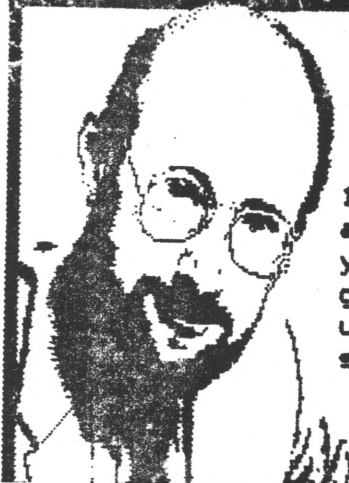
country, not an 800 number. The whole picture of the modem user and what and where to go was put out, not by a national publisher, but by a couple of guys who got the ball rolling, not once but twice. The same with commercial software, bugs and printer and disc problems are not solved by the vendor, but by the user or his network of friends. Our numbers maybe fewer, but the friendliness of the remaining few is higher. Fewer users, fewer vendors, fewer manufacturers but a closeness of the TS community which would never happen in the apple or atari or ibm world. Though I haven't been to a TS computerfest yet, I have seen videos of fests past, read of the crowds, seen pictures of the participants, and enjoyed the atmosphere from afar. Our local group has been from the start a nationwide group, as some of the early writers were from Alabama to New York City, today we enjoy the efforts of people from Germany to Oregon, Texas to Canada. I predicted the TS groups would be history by now, and that the only place to find a TS computer would be the garage sale. With three disc systems, 300 or 1200 baud modems, ramdisk potential, two national publications (Time Designs and Syncware), QLs and Z88s, over thirty active user groups, TS Computerfests, and many BBSs and Timex conferences and many, many active and supportive vendors, 1988 will be another year to show how wrong I was in my prediction. Support your local user group by attending, paying dues and participating. Support your vendor by telling him where you saw his ads, by telling others of his service and by not pirating software. Support your BBSs by learning how to use it, use it, say hi and thanks to the sysops, and donate some bucks once in awhile. Subscribe to newsletters, magazines, and write to the editors, write a review or an article. You'll get more out of it, by putting a little more in to the TS community.

Newsletters, BBSs, magazines are our only way to support the individuals far from a user group. Let's use these connections in a positive way and soon we all be looking ahead at the 1990s and and still enjoying our TS computers!

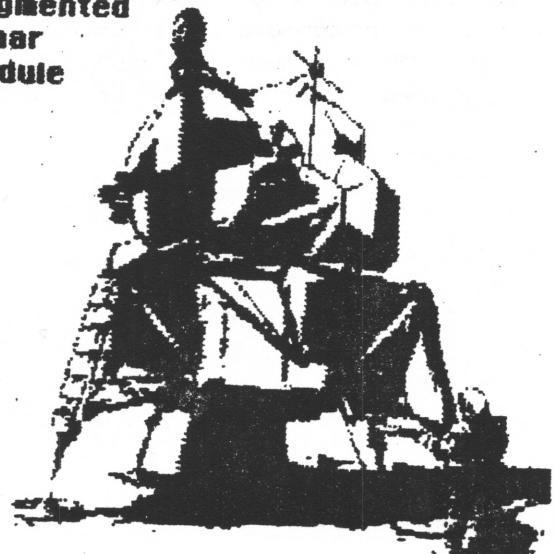
From all of us here at SINCUS-Hi, Happy New Year, we appreciate reading your newsletters, we thank the many corresponding members for their support and hope to hear from you all in the new year.



Augmented Lunar Module



**HI!**  
 1988 ought be an interesting year- join in - get active in a user group, learn something new!



## Book Review:

### POWERFUL PROJECTS WITH YOUR TIMEX/SINCLAIR

by Jim Stephens, available from WMJ Data Systems, 4 Butterfly Dr., Hauppauge, NY 11788, \$6 + \$2.95 S & H.

This book came out in 1985 with no more fanfare than expected from a major publisher recently orphaned computer and indeed, it covers an area that has not really fulfilled the prophecies for the TS computers, controlling "the real world". Not to make projects too mundane; this book includes robotics.

For the techtype father there are projects for son or daughter's science fair; you can throw in a speech synthesizer to humanize that robot made from hobby shop parts and possibly an old typewriter. Stephens says, "It gives you a special sense of accomplishment to see your old typewriter scuttle around the room, picking up objects and dropping them into your hand." I think I see a way to establish detente with your computer widow.

But, frankly, this book maybe of greatest use to the non-hardware hacker, for apparently the years have winnowed out most of the non-technical TS hobbyists. The remaining 10% still electronically unenlightened are thrown constantly into "hms" (visualize the polyphonic variety of Mandarin Chinese) while reading SWN or 73% of newsletter coverage; but the very worst is conversing with the EEs. This book is directed most prominently to the TS2068 but adaptable to TS1000 and 1500.

Especially helpful is the profusion of illustrations, photographs, mini-schematics--an average of one per page. Abstract theory with electricity is difficult but because this book is written at the application level, Stephens explains and shows what a breadboard is, how to wirewrap, what a dozen or more ICs look like. The last time someone described a board with socketing, "hmm". Now I know exactly what it is. By page 62 I yearned for my own VOM and solder pencil.

Vocabulary, concepts, excellent explication of electrical terminology may be unneeded by 90% of the TS hobbyists still hanging in, but they have kids and wives. Some software, hardware, a programmable stereo system, garden sprinkler, model railroad, or a touch of microbotics might be just the thing to involve some non-techies you are very involved with.

--Joan Kealy

Ed Note: Thanks Joan; if you have a hi or low opinion of a book or software for your TS computer, write a little review of it, share your views, it will stir someone to buy it and use it or to avoid it and save some money. Use Joan's review as a neat how to write a review if you've never done so since high school! Joan belongs to 23 user groups and if you have gone through our stack of newsletter swaps you will see her name in virtually every issue. Thank God there are several good people like Joan out there making life just a little bit easier for newsletter editors!

# DATA TRANSFER ON THE SERIAL PORT

Many users now own or have access to more than one computer and find one may have certain advantages over another for creating and editing data files. At times it is easier to create a file on one system but another may offer more flexibility for printing or storing these files. Sometime we may just have used one for a long time and have many files saved when along comes a new system with different storage medium or incompatible formats on the same medium. To save the time of re-entering the data again it is much simpler to just send the file to the other computer.

This procedure can be quite simple if both computers have a serial port and communications software. The data rate can be increased to whatever speed the computer can handle. To use the serial port a small inexpensive piece of hardware must be added "THE NULL MODEM".

The null modem is nothing more than a cable with some signal wires crossed to "fool" the serial port into thinking that it's communicating with a serial device. The only electrical connection between the two computers can be accomplished by three wires, GROUND or COMMON, TRANSMIT DATA and RECEIVE DATA. However the serial port and the communications software need some other conditions before it can establish the connection. It is therefore necessary to jumper outbound signals back to the inbound signals. For my version of the null modem I will show the pin numbering for the 25 pin D-shell connector. Your pin configuration may differ but connecting the same signal wires as shown will produce the same end results.

## THE NULL MODEM

SYSTEM A	SYSTEM B
TRANSMIT DATA (pin 2)-----	RECEIVE DATA (pin 3)
RECEIVE DATA (pin 3)-----	TRANSMIT DATA (pin 2)
SIGNAL GROUND (pin 7)-----	SIGNAL GROUND (pin 7)
REQ. TO SEND (pin 4)--]	[--REQ. TO SEND (pin 4)
CLEAR TO SEND (pin 5)--]	[--CLEAR TO SEND (pin 5)
DATA TERM. RDY(pin 20)-]	[--DATA TERM.RDY(pin 20)
DATA SET. RDY (pin 6)--]	[--DATA SET RDY (pin 6)
DATA CARR DET (pin 8)--]	[--DATA CARR DET (pin 8)

Each system will activate the REQ TO SEND and the DATA TERM RDY line and the jumpers will activate CLEAR TO SEND, DATA SET RDY and DATA CARR DET. If your system does not have all of the above lines present on the serial port then they can be omitted on the null modem.

Both systems must be operating at the same speed (baud rate) and parameters (8,n,1). Up and down loading is now done to transfer the files, use simple buffer transfers or XMODEM if error checking is desired.

Dave Schoenwetter SINCUS 1988

Ed.Note: Dave uploaded this article from his IBM-PC to the local BBS, TCCS as a text file. I then downloaded it, "NULMODEM.TXT" via Xmodem and Mterm (Casby's Loader V Program) saved the file to tape, ran it through Casby's Unloader program, loaded it into my Mscript, edited it, and printed it out. Start to finish about 35 minutes, and I didn't have to get the wife to shovel the driveway.



# T/S Computer Feast News

Vacation? How about the best of All Worlds? by Joe Williamson

Central Florida is one of the most popular vacation spots in America and next spring it will be one better because the next major T/S ComputerFeast will be held there in Orlando just minutes from Disney World, Sea World, Circus World, and most all major attractions of Florida.

The Times/Sinclair User Groups of Florida are presenting the Sun State Times/Sinclair Winterfeast '88 next March 4, 5, and 6, 1988 in Orlando at the Orlando Marriott on International Drive. Now is the time to start planning your family vacation for a week or so in this mecca of vacations with the Winterfeast weekend as an added bonus to your itinerary. Just imagine, while you take advantage of all the super deals and information available for your computer at the Winterfeast, you can send your wife (or husband) and the kids off to Disney World for a day of fun and everyone is happy!

March in central Florida is ideal because it is usually warm enough to swim, yet much cooler than the hot, sticky summer months. The marriot itself is providing discount rates for our Winterfeast and has excellent facilities with four lighted tennis courts, three large pools, jacuzzi, and child's pool - all heated, health club facilities, three restaurants and five bars.

The meeting rooms are larger than the ones at the last two Midwest Computer Feasts with more than enough electrical outlets (this place is used to having computer classes!). The marriott is giving Winterfeast goers a convention rate of \$90 per night for single and double occupancy and \$105 per night for triple and quad. We do realize that this is much higher than what everyone is used to paying at previous Feasts, but when you consider the locale, it's quite a bargain. These rates will be good for an entire week's stay. There are other hotels in the area with rates as low as \$75 per night, but you would have to then worry about transportation. When you contact the Marriott to make a reservation, be sure to mention you will be attending the Sunstate T/S Winterfeast '88 and that you want the special convention rate. Their number is (305) 351-2420 and they accept all major credit cards.

To help cut costs, we will be trying to match up people who would like to share a room. Please let us know when you register. Advanced reservations are now being accepted by sending your name(s), address and phone number to:

Sunstate T/S Winterfeast '88  
249 N. Harden Ave.  
Orange City, FL 32763

Fees for early reservation are \$5 single, \$9 family. Fees at the door will be \$8 single, and \$12 family. Fees for users groups having a table at the feast will be \$10 per table now and \$15 per table at the door. Vendor's fees are \$50 per table now and \$65 per table at the door. Be sure and make checks out to the Northeast Florida T/S Users Group. We are using their checking account to make things easier as they are one of the

most groups. For more information you can either write to the above address or call our BBS at (904) 779-0093, 300 baud, 8-1-N. Always open. For those who register early, we will be having a drawing to win a free room at the marriott for one night.

For those people who are planning on flying, we have negotiated with a travel agency to provide us with the best possible rate from anywhere in the US. Travel arrangements can be made by calling 1-800-327-1360 outside Florida or 1-305-351-1976 in Florida between 7:30 AM and 7PM EST. Monday through Friday and 9AM to 2PM EST. on Saturday. State that you are interested in travel reservations to the Sunstate Times/Sinclair Winterfeast. Also, let them know whether you need ground transportation or car rental to get to the Winterfeast. Ground transportation will cost an additional \$10 round trip - a real bargain compared to what a taxi would cost.

Some of the planned activities include seminars covering hopefully all aspects of our computers, a swap room, minor repairs to computers and interfaces. We will have available replacement (new) T81500's and 2068's as well as replacement SCLD's for both!

Because of the international draw of the area, we expect to have both international users and vendors participating in Winterfeast. We have already contacted several with favorable responses. Those vendors we already have commitments from include:

- AERCO, AFR Software, Clifford & Grey, Curry Computer, Foots Software, Gulf Micro Computing, John Dillger Co., Larken Electronics, Markel Electronics, Quantum Computing, RING Enterprises, Time Design Magazine, Sharp's, Variety Sales, & Zebra Systems.

We also plan to have several local surplus electronic stores with surplus disk drives, power supplies, cables, etc. available for sale. This is only November and we do expect more and more!

We have had four organizational meetings so far with the next one on December 5. We generally meet on the first Sunday of the month in the Orlando area. For place, please call the BBS. If you are in the area and would like to attend and provide some input please stop by. Included is a picture of our "committee" which includes members of the Northeast Florida T/S Users Group (Jacksonville), T/S Users of Gainesville (TUG), T/S Users group of Orlando, and the TABSAM group (Tampa And Suncoast Bay Area Microcomputer).

Start planning now for the vacation of your life! If you need more information, please contact the Winterfeast BBS or write to the address above. See you there!





